

Resolution RE: Acclaimed Candidates By-Law Revisions

WHEREAS acclaimed candidates for SSMU Elections do not have to win student support and do not even appear on the ballot, according to the SSMU By-Laws, and;

WHEREAS this adversely affects the accountability of the acclaimed candidates as they have received no mandate from students, and;

WHEREAS this adversely affects the candidate's effort to improve their physical looks and engagement in the election period, and;

WHEREAS the SSMU Executive supports hotness, better candidates, and higher election engagement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the following by-law revisions be made (additions in **BOLD**):

PART III: ELECTIONS & REFERENDA

Article 8 – Nominations

8.1 Nominations for executive officers, the SSMU representative to the Board of Governors, the Financial Ethics Research Advisors, the undergraduate student Senators and the executive board members of FYC, shall be open for at least ten (10) days.

8.2 Where no students declare themselves as candidates for an elected position;

*8.2.1 Nominations for the vacant position shall be extended by **two business days** regardless of the scheduled campaign period.*

8.2.1.1 Appropriate public notice must be made of the extended nomination period;

8.2.2 Where no students declare themselves as candidates following the extended nomination period, SSMU Council shall fill the said office using standard conventions at its disposal.

8.3 Where only one student declares themselves as a candidate for an elected position;

8.3.1. Nominations for the position shall be extended by two business days regardless of the scheduled campaign period

8.3.1.1 Appropriate public notice must be made of the extended nomination period

8.4 Nominations must be signed by members of the Society as follows:

8.4.1 one hundred (100) for nominations for executive officers of the Society;

8.4.2 seventy-five (75) for nominations for the undergraduate representative to the Board of Governors

8.4.3 the lesser of fifty (50) or twenty-five percent (25%) of their respective constituencies for student Senators; and

8.4.4 fifty (50) nominations by other first year students for executive board members of FYC;

THIS RESOLUTION PASSED

8.4.5 fifty (50) nominations for Financial Ethics Research Advisors

8.5 A member of the Society may nominate more than one (1) candidate for each position.

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Article 22 – Voting

22.1 The date, time and location of polls will be published no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the opening of the first advanced poll in the McGill Tribune and the McGill Daily (both English and French publications).

22.1.1 Polls, the locations of which have not been published shall be deemed unofficial and all ballots cast at an unofficial poll will be null and void unless all candidates or committees involved agree otherwise before the opening of the poll concerned.

22.2 At the time designated by Elections McGill for the closing of any poll, electors who are then waiting in line may vote. No elector shall thereafter be admitted to the waiting line.

22.3 An elector may vote at any open poll during an election or referendum.

22.4 In the event the Online Voting System is not functional or an eligible elector does not have access to the Online Voting System, paper ballots shall be made available to them.

22.4.1 All paper ballots shall be cast in the presence of the CEO or his designate and at least one other official of Elections McGill.

22.4.2 Under no circumstances may a student be allowed to cast a paper ballot without a student identification card. No appeals on this matter will be considered.

22.5 Each qualified elector wishing to vote must do so in person. Voting by proxy is prohibited.

22.6 An advanced poll at which any student may vote is to be held during the campaign period. Candidates shall be permitted to campaign while the advance polls are open, except within the vicinity of the polling stations, which shall also be cleared of all campaign material.

22.7 Regular polls are to operate for three (3) consecutive work days.

22.8 Results are to be announced by Elections McGill at a pre-established time and place.

22.9 At least one polling station with wheelchair access must be accessible to persons with physical, visual or auditory disabilities. Said station must have sufficient facilities, to ensure that all members of the Society may be able to vote.

22.10 All ballots, referendum questions, plebiscite questions and instructions shall be available in English and French at all polling stations.

Article 23 – Acclaimed Candidates

23.1 If there is only one candidate for a SSMU executive position, the ballot will offer two options: “Yes” and “No”

23.2 If the candidate receives a plurality of “yes” votes, or an equal number of “yes” and “no” votes, the candidate shall be declared elected.

23.3 If the candidate receives a plurality of “no” votes,

23.3.1 The candidate shall not be declared elected.

23.3.2 The CEO shall be immediately declare a nomination period for 4 business days. Appropriate notice must be made of this extended nomination period. Regular nomination rules and procedures shall apply.

23.3.3 Any student, including any candidate who was not declared elected due to a plurality of “no votes”, shall be eligible to declare themselves a candidate during this nomination period.

23.3.4 Immediately following this nomination period, the CEO shall declare a campaign period of 5 days. Regular campaigning rules and procedures shall apply.

23.3.5 Immediately following this campaign period, polls shall be open for 2 business days. Regular polling rule and procedures shall apply.

23.3.6 If no candidate is declared elected by this procedure, SSMU Council shall fill the position using standard conventions at its disposal.

Article 24 – The Count

23.1 Votes cast through the Online Voting System shall be tabulated by the CEO in the presence of at least one other officer of Elections McGill

23.2 If any paper ballots were cast, they shall be counted in the presence of no less than two officials of Elections McGill.

23.2.1 At the request of any one candidate or referendum committee, one (1) neutral scrutineer may be appointed to observe the count of paper ballots

23.3 A ballot is to be rejected if:

*23.3.1 there is no clear indication of preference for a single candidate or referendum question;
or*

23.3.2 the initials of the poll clerk do not appear on the ballot paper.

23.4 Any candidate or referendum committee chair may request one (1) recount of the paper ballots.

23.4.1 The CEO may order further recounts if he/she deems them necessary.

23.5 All paper ballots shall be kept in a secure location for seven (7) days following the announcement of results.

**Moved by: Sebastian Ronderos-Morgan
(acclaimed) Vice-President External**

**Seconded by: Sarah Olle
(acclaimed) Vice-President Clubs & Services**